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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 28 | Min 20 | Humidity 82% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 59,934 | Nifty 17,877 | Gold 50,450 | Silver 61,100 | Dollar 79.69 | Euro 79.59 | GBP 91.78

FLEXIBILITY

Despite several directions from High Court, CM, political 'flexing' continues unabated

PAGE 4

GIGONOMIC

Appalling working conditions of gig workers call for clear policy, experts say

PAGE 7

Medical rooms for students who fall sick at school are a rarity in city; often, working parents are called in to take children home

SENT BACK SICK

10,000 schools in state covered as part of NCERT survey

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Only 46% of the schools in Karnataka have a readily available medical room. The figure is as per a recent state report on Foundational Learning Study by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).

In Bengaluru too, parents BM spoke to said, only a few private schools have the facility of a medical room despite the aftermath of the coronavirus pandemic and ongoing flu season.

Swetha A's son studies in a private school at Mahalakshmipuram Layout in Bengaluru. She said the school has no medical room. "If the child gets sick, they call the parents and ask them to pick them up from school."

Around 10,000 schools were covered as part of the NCERT survey. The study sample included state government schools, government-aided schools, private-unaided schools and kendriya vidyalayas.

The parents are of the view that it is essential for the schools to have proper medical facilities for the students as it can be hard for working parents to pick up their children from school on short notice.

"A few months ago when covid cases were rising, my 10-year-old daughter caught a flu; the school called me to pick her up from school. My office is 11 km from her school; so it is hard for me to go on such short notice. The schools should have a proper facility to isolate sick students, especially during monsoon when kids get sick all the time. Because of the covid scare they do not want to let them stay at school; they have no basic medical facility," another parent told Bangalore Mirror.

Parents further raised concern that though the schools have a designated medical

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 »

> **"Almost 99% of state board schools do not have any medical room facility; there are no guidelines...**
>
> — D Shashi Kumar, gen secy, Associated Managements of Primary and Secondary Schools in Karnataka

Wrong Number

Mobile phone numbers provided by BBMP of engineers at newly launched helpline has only 9 digits

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After constituting many panels, committees and launching apps, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has set up one more cell – Citizens Grievances Redressal Cell – just a few days ago.

The civic body claimed of setting up the Citizens Grievances Redressal Cell in accordance with the honourable High Court's order in the writ petition number 42927/2015.

Though residents of Bengaluru always welcome the BBMP's initiatives and measures to mitigate infrastructure-related issues in the city, they said that the new cell set up a few days ago would not serve the purpose if the BBMP or its engineers lack dedication and commitment.

The BBMP has provided the contact numbers of assistant engineer, assistant executive engineer, and executive engineer of the respective wards. This correspondent found two contact numbers with only nine digits instead of 10. For example, Shivajinagar assistant executive engineer Bheema Naik's phone

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Dasara special

The annual Dasara doll festival here! On display is handmade dolls made by rural artisans from Channapatana, Ettikopakka, Kodapalli, Cuddalore, Thanjavur, Kolkata and Panruti made in clay, lac-turned-wood and plaster and themes range from episodes of the Ramayana & Mahabharata to scenes from the picturesque Indian villages. **Where: Studio Tamaala, JP Nagar, www.tamaala.com; When: Till Sep 30, 10 am – 9 pm Contact: 7676197344**

02 Sip and paint

Did you know Van Gogh got drunk when he painted? You can also channel the inner artist in you as Koramangala SOCIAL is hosting a one-of-a-kind workshop called 'Sip & Paint' in collaboration with Chill Sesh. You will learn how to create an artistic masterpiece and get professional at making delicious cocktails taught by an expert mixologist. Everything necessary for fun will be provided including paints, brushes, and canvas. **Where: Koramangala SOCIAL When: Sep 17, 11 am – 2 pm; Tickets: insider.in**

03 Tunes to live by

On the 15th year celebration of Bengaluru International Arts Festival, AIM presents a 3-day music festival marking the 75th Azaadi ki Amrit Mahothsav and remembering Pandit Bhimsen Joshi and Smt. Rani Vijaya Devi on their birth centenary celebration. The inauguration will be by Dr Ashwath Narayan CN, Minister for Higher Education, Electronic Information, Biotechnology, Skill Development, Entrepreneurship & Livelihood. **Where: Chowdaiah Memorial Auditorium, Vyalikaval, Malleshwaram When: Sep 16, 6.30 pm onwards**

More good news: Virus continues to be on wane

TPR now at 2 per cent; only five active clusters with fewer than five cases each

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Although cases continue to be on the wane, masking up will be your best bet against the virus

Covid seems to be on the wane according to statistics provided by the Department of Health and Family Welfare. After the end of the third wave, there are many cycles of increase and decrease in Covid cases in the city. The latest one saw an increase in Covid cases though the fatality was comparatively lesser than the previous waves. From a high of Test Positivity Rate (TPR) of 9.41 per cent (reported on August 18), the TPR has now reduced to two per cent.

Health experts say that Omicron's sub-variants were driving the recent surge. Among those testing positive, 74.3 per cent were infected by BA.2 variant while 7.49 per cent from BA.5.2. On Thursday, Bengaluru reported 283 fresh cases (out of 551 in Bengaluru). This is a drastic decrease in cases from July-end. For example, on July 29, Bengaluru reported 1,615 out of 2,130 cases. City also reported a Covid death on Thursday with a 67-year-old man who was admitted to the hospital for Influenza-like Illness with symptoms of cough and died after failing to respond after three days of treatment. Though hospitalisation is decreasing, 35 Covid patients are still being treated in various private and government hospitals. Out of the 35, 13 are in ICU and four in HDU wards. There are five active clusters with less than five cases each.

However, Bellandur is continuing with the Covid surge with 16 cases reported a day, followed by nine each in Varthur and Horamavu, seven each in HSR Layout, Doddanekkundi and Begur and six each in Byatarayanapura, Jakkur, Hagadur and Kadugodi. Wards like Bapuji Nagar, Padaraanapura, JJ Nagar, Rayapura, Azad Nagar, Lakkasandra, Hanumanth Nagar, Hosakerehalli, Banashankari temple ward and Anjanapura have zero cases.

Doctors say that during the recent wave, high fever was the major symptom for Covid cases compared to breathing distress, severe cough and cold and mainly loss of taste and smell in the earlier infections. Health experts say that the fever which begins on a mild note turns high by the second day before subsiding and this could be one of the main indicators of Covid in the current season. The other major symptoms are throat ache, nasal stuffiness, head and body aches, loss of taste and smell is not very common this time. However, doctors say that the daily cases may not be reflecting the exact situation as a majority of them were still not getting tested and hence the number of cases falsely appeared to be low.

Bellandur continues to have a high number of cases with 16 cases being reported every day

In fact, many were taking the medicines over the counter at medical shops for fever and other symptoms. Doctors say that though the infection may be spreading, most of the people are recovering well within four to five days. There were hardly many cases requiring hospital admission.

Kids, it's time to soak up some more sun

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A recent study by Sankara Eye Hospital has revealed that Vitamin D3 deficiency in children can contribute to progressive myopia. The study -- conducted over a period of the last 6 months between January and July 2022 -- examined children in the age group of 8 to 14 years (31 boys and 20 girls) and found that serum Vitamin D 3 levels were deficient (<20 ng/ml) in 38 children. Only 13 children were noted to have normal levels of above 30 ng/ml.

The study was conducted by Dr Sowmya R, Consultant, Department of Paediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, Sankara Eye Hospital, and meta-analysis from Hongkong group also had shown low Vitamin D levels associated with increased risk of myopia.

Myopia is a common cause of visual impairment in children in the school-going age group. The incidence of myopia has been estimated to be 5.3 per cent in Indian children and 35.6 per cent in adults. It is one of the most common causes of decrease in vision which starts manifesting in childhood and can progress over the years. Taking this into account, it becomes imperative to identify modifiable factors in the development and progression of myopia, so that progression can be minimised in childhood itself.

Dr Sowmya R, Consultant, Department of Paediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, Sankara Eye Hospital, Bengaluru said: "Vitamin D levels is thought to be a surrogate marker for sunlight exposure. Sunlight exposure and time spent outdoors are proven to be key factors in myopia progression. When the children come for follow-ups, we have seen a low vitamin D levels in most of new onset myopes or fast progressing myopes. This can be attributed to nil to minimal sunlight exposure and outdoor activities in children."

A previous study on the Vitamin D levels in children with progressive myopia on treatment with low dose atropine showing progression (> 0.5D increase in last 6 months) had also showed similar results. Nearly 15/20 children on low dose atropine for progressive myopia had showed low vitamin D levels previously. Considering Vitamin D 3 levels are related to sunlight exposure, levels may act as surrogate marker for outdoor activities or act as independent factor in children with progressive myopia, added Dr Sowmya.

The pilot study threw light on possibly using Vitamin D 3 levels in our protocols in treating children with progressive myopia. "Parents need to ascertain that children get a minimum of 90 minutes' sunlight exposure every day."

Birthday bash on road can land you in jail

Cops say they are keeping close eye on social media to track down those following new trend of celebrating alongside busy roads

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> **"Roadside birthdays have become a craze. Youngsters stop in the middle of the road to cut a cake, burst crackers, and dance** –Senior police officer

Cutting cakes for birthdays is quite common, but the latest trend of doing the same on roadsides is taking youngsters by storm. Police have said that this can lead to imprisonment.

Police are also tracking social media posts and taking action against those indulging in the same on the streets.

They explained that these activities can lead to a 'law and order' problem and needs to be avoided.

A senior police official said, "Roadside birthday parties have become a craze. Many youngsters go on a long drive and stop in the middle of the road to cut a cake, burst crackers, and dance. However, they do not understand that these acts are not only endangering their lives but also those of other commuters."

The 10-lane Bengaluru-Mysuru Highway has reportedly become a hotspot for birthday revellers. Ramanagar police are now chasing away such people.

Ramanagar SP K Santosh Babu said, "Birthday parties on roads are illegal as they can lead to a lot of other problems. We have decided to curb such roadside celebrations and warn people of tough action including imprisonment if they continue to do so."

Another senior police official said, "Recently, we saw many youngsters celebrating a birthday on a highway. As vehicles were speeding away, some of them unknowingly came to the centre of the road, which resulted in a pileup of vehicles. Luckily, there were no accidents, but there was every chance."

Roads are meant for driving and there should not be any sort of encroachments, they added.

This has stirred a debate among young people.

"I feel that there should be designated places for partying which are definitely not on roads. I have seen such celebrations on roads even at 12 am," said Siddanth S, a resident of Rajajinagar, adding that it was a nuisance for the entire neighbourhood as people had to spend sleepless nights for someone else's fun.

He told Bangalore Mirror that he had questioned a few young people about why they were disturbing the peace of the locality, but they reportedly chased him away saying he had no right to question them.

On the other hand, Mukund R, a college student, said, "During covid, most of us could not meet at hotels or any other places due to restrictions. We were always encouraged to meet in the open as infection risk was less. As birthdays are quite special, we were buying cakes and placing them on bikes or cars to do the honours."

A recent roadside 'birthday bash' reportedly led to a pileup of vehicles; Accidents were luckily averted, said police

Demolition drives begin in other zones

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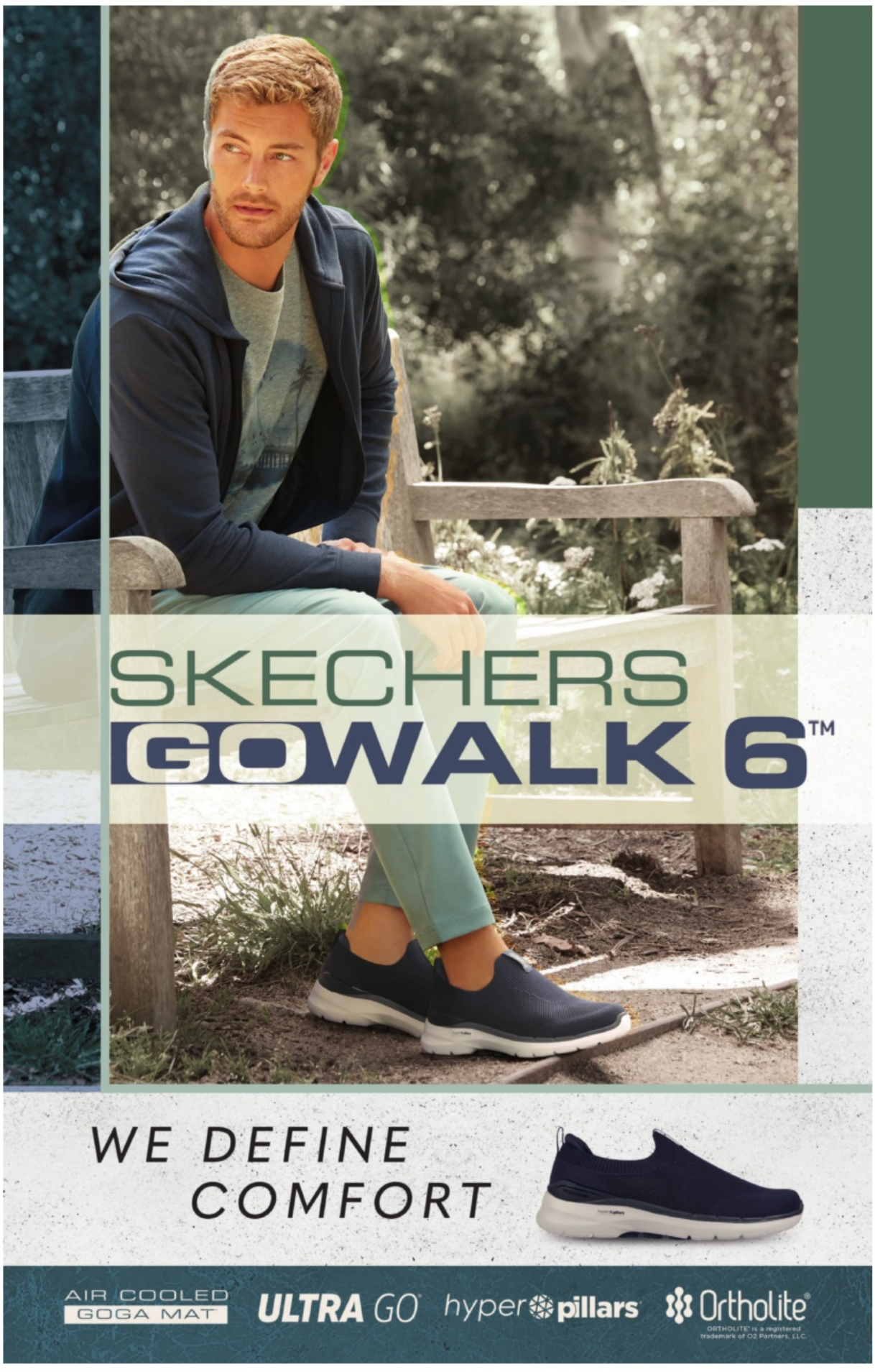
After pressure mounting against the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) for focusing their encroachment removals in Mahadevapura zone, the civic body started their demolition drive in other zones on Thursday. On day four of the demolition drive, 29 encroachments were removed. Dasarahalli zone saw its first drive with buildings being demolished at the rajakaluve near Rukmini Nagar. Around two encroachments were removed in Yelahanka. During inspection, it was found that a layout was formed on the stormwater drain near Singapura Lake, blocking the water flow. In the Bommanahalli zone, 11 encroachments were identified, including a commercial building and eight sheds. In Mahadevapura zone, encroachments were removed near Shantiniketan Layout.

Notices issued

After a survey, notices were issued to residents who were in encroached areas at Vagdevi Layout, Munnekolala, Kasavanahalli, tech park, Doddakannelli, Belathur, Sadaramanagala, and Sai Garden layout. Reacting to encroachment statements against Purva Ridge, Abhishek Kapoor, CEO, Puravankara Limited said, "Nothing illegal has been done while constructing Purva Parkridge as claimed. The project was executed in line with the sanctioned plan, approved by the BDA as per the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP). The current situation is due to constructions by other developers in adjoining areas."



Flexing out of control

Despite several notifications from Karnataka High Court, CM Bommai on the issue, BBMP's lack of initiative regarding curbing political flexing is baffling city people

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If flexes at various locations, especially in Shanthinagar Assembly segment, are any indication, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) authorities have no inclination to implement Karnataka High Court's interim order of prohibiting them.

A few months ago, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai directed the civic body to not allow illegal banners. In July, BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath also ordered revenue inspectors to remove them.

However, Shanthinagar MLA NA Harris's supporters are fighting to impress their leader by placing as many banners as possible to celebrate him being elected as the Vice President of the All India Football Association. One can see flexes hanging on multiple streetlight poles on the main roads in the area.

"These flexes have become an eyesore. I think the supporters of MLA Harris do not want to obey the High Court. I don't know what BBMP authorities are doing. They should act tough against those responsible for putting up such banners," said V Purushotham of Halasuru Rising.

Suggesting the MLA's supporters take up work that benefits residents of Shanthinagar instead, Kathyayini Chamaraj, Executive Trustee of CIVIC Bangalore, said that these banners are ruining the beauty of Bengaluru.

"Let them construct public toilets or do other useful works. They can put up a small banner or flex highlighting the sponsors of such works. What is the use of hanging flexes on electricity poles?," asked Chamaraj.

KAUSHIK JN

ALL INDIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION
Heartiest congratulations to
SHRI N.A. HARIS
upon being elected as the Vice President of the All India Football Association

Shanthinagar MLA Harris's supporters erect a banner after he was elected Vice President of the All India Football Association

Supporters of most MLAs from Bengaluru have been putting up banners whenever they get an opportunity. It may be recalled that flexes of a few BJP leaders were put up on Dr BR Ambedkar Veedhi near Vidhana Soudha a few months ago.

"I had complained to the High Court when flexes were put up on Dr Ambedkar Veedhi. The honourable High Court judge ordered BBMP authorities to remove those," said G R Mohan, an advocate who filed a writ petition in the High Court on illegal flexes.

> **BBMP authorities merely issue statements on the measures to prevent illegal banners, but they are not implementing their own orders effectively**
> –Sai Datta, activist

Mohan said the writ petition is pending in the High Court.

"The High Court has passed interim orders prohibiting illegal banners, flexes, and hoardings in the city. If anyone puts up such things without a valid permission, it is a violation of Karnataka Open Places (Prevention of Disfigurement) Act, 1981. I am of the opinion that BBMP authorities will be responsible for illegal banners if they fail to act tough," he said.

Social activist Sai Datta has opined that banners were put up to divert public attention from the alleged encroachment of stormwater drains at Mahadevapura by an educational institution owned by the MLA.

"BBMP authorities merely issue statements on the measures taken to prevent illegal banners, but they are not implementing their own orders effectively. I want them to remove these immediately and file criminal cases against those responsible for it," said Datta.

BBMP Special Commissioner (Revenue) Deepak RL was not available for comment.

'Can't wait': City seeks Common Mobility Card

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With other metropolitan cities like Chennai planning to launch the common mobility card in the next two months, residents of Bengaluru are also waiting for similar developments. They say that the card will make travel much easier.

The National Common Mobility Card was launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs on March 4, 2019, to help passengers enjoy a seamless journey via metro and other public transport. It can also be used for shopping.

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) officials have said that they will soon come up with the common mobility card. Yashwant Chavan, BMRCL PRO, said, "We are in the process. Currently, we are testing it and will launch the card shortly for the people."

Harish Kumar, a resident of Yeshwantpur, said, "I think it will benefit the commuters a lot because they will not have to carry different cards with them. Carrying so many things becomes quite confusing, and while traveling, we often end up losing things as well."

Ritesh Gowda, a resident of Kengeri, told Bangalore Mirror he carries a number of cards while traveling in metros, and during afternoon hours, the metros tend to get very crowded.

People using the Namma Metro; BMRCL has said that they will come up with the card soon

"There have been times when I have lost my token due to the hustle. If a common mobility card is there, then I will not have to worry about carrying so many cards with me," he said.

Commuters have also said that having such a card in place will significantly reduce the total time taken to travel as they would not have to stand in long queues anymore.

Disha Khaitan, a Malleswaram resident, said that on many occasions she has had to wait in queues for collecting a metro ticket and gotten late. She was eager for the card to arrive.

Abhijith K, a resident of Vijaynagar, said, "The common mobility card will also make payments cashless, which would definitely be very convenient for all of us. There will be no more hassle about carrying the exact change to get the tickets."

Metro snag causes temporary delays

Due to a snag in metro operations, Namma Metro users using the stretch between Kengeri and Mysore Road Metro Station faced a delay of services. At around 9 am, metros operating between Kengeri and Mysore Road station began to run at 25 or 30-minute intervals. Due to this, services were delayed for a short period.
"In the morning, there was some issue with the tracks, and a team was deputed to fix it. At around 12 pm, the issue was resolved. To provide unencumbered services, some trains ran from Mysore Road to Jnanabharathi Metro Station, and some were operating from Mysore Road to Kengeri on a single line," said BMRCL CPRO, Yashwanth Chavan. –BMB

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Trashed pavement
Seenappa Layout

Shops have been dumping garbage on the footpath in Seenappa Layout off the new BEL Road. People have no space to walk.

Public hazard
Brunton Road

Sewage has been overflowing outside an apartment complex in Brunton Road for the past two weeks, leading to a foul smell and hygiene issues.

Pole peril
Bharathinagar

Footpaths are damaged due to poles being erected at John's Church road, opposite Hera Bagh, Bharathinagar.

Single-screen halls still in choppy waters

Biz yet to pick up as patrons prefer multiplexes for better experience

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Even as the film industry is slowly picking up business and movie lovers are thronging multiplexes to watch films the old-school style, single screen theatre owners say that even with new releases, they are failing to attract people to their theatres. The owners and employees say that since covid, they have been facing significant losses. They had hoped that with life returning to normalcy and new movies being released, they would have good number of people coming in, but their hopes have been let down.

Dutta Kumar, running Govardhan Theatre, said, "Only 10 to 15 people come to watch the movies, that too not every day. We are facing a lot of losses because of this. This has been the condition for the last two years."

Harshith S, running Aruna Theatre, said, "We have been facing difficulties since the pandemic. Not many people are coming in the theatre to watch. We expected that this time with so many releases people will come but that did not happen. The situation has been better, but we still need more people to come so that we can make profit."

The movie-goers say that though single-screen theatres are cheap, they would prefer multiplexes to get the enhanced movie-watching experience.

Mahesh Gupta, a resident of Yeswanthpur, said, "I went few days ago to watch a film in a single-screen theatre and they started the film early without even letting the audience in and there was mismanagement and chaos while letting the audience in and the movie fans were even bursting firecrackers which was not safe at all. The audio quality was poor and most of the dialogues were also unclear, moreover, the fans were screaming at the top of their voices which further made listening to the movie difficult. I came out after watching just half the movie."

Movie-goers say the ambient sound, picture quality and ambience is far better in multiplexes

Some of the movie goers also say that even though multiplexes are a little heavy on the pocket, they would prefer that because the ambient sound, picture quality and ambience is better than the ones present in single screen theatres.

Rohan Patil, residing in Rajajinagar, said, "The 3d effects in the single screen theatres are not at all good. Moreover, when I went to watch a film in one of the theatres, there was a lot of argument going on between the people as they were occupying the wrong seats. The place is also not safe to go for late night shows. In the multiplexes they charge more money but with the picture quality, sound and the ambience, I think that it is worth it."

Mother, daughter die by suicide

A day after news of a mother and son's suicide was circulated, Bengaluru on Thursday witnessed yet another gory incident where a mother and daughter died by hanging themselves.

According to the police, the mother, Divya, was residing in Govindapura Police Station limits and was suffering from respiratory issues. Recently, she was told by a doctor that she had to give away her pet dog as staying close to the canine was increasing her respiratory issues. This resulted in a fight between Divya and her relatives. Upset over this, Divya and her daughter killed themselves by hanging.

Fake watch ring busted

The CCB sleuths have cracked down on a gang which was selling fake watches in Bengaluru. Police have arrested Syed Mohammed, one of the masterminds, and said that Mohammed and his associates were duplicating watches from prestigious companies and selling them with fake logos at Shivajinagar.

Dead fish in Haralur Lake

A large number of dead fish were found floating in Haralur Lake in the Bellandur area of Bengaluru on Wednesday due to toxic sewage overflowing into the lake.

Three to four tonnes of fish have been reported dead in the past 3-4 days. Lake volunteer Amardeep Adiga said, "With the entry of sewage, froth is formed in the lakes and fish die owing to lack of oxygen." He said that they complained many times to BBMP, but no action was taken yet.

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HEALTH TIP: Quinoa is a whole grain that is higher in protein, fibre, and overall nutrition than rice or pasta

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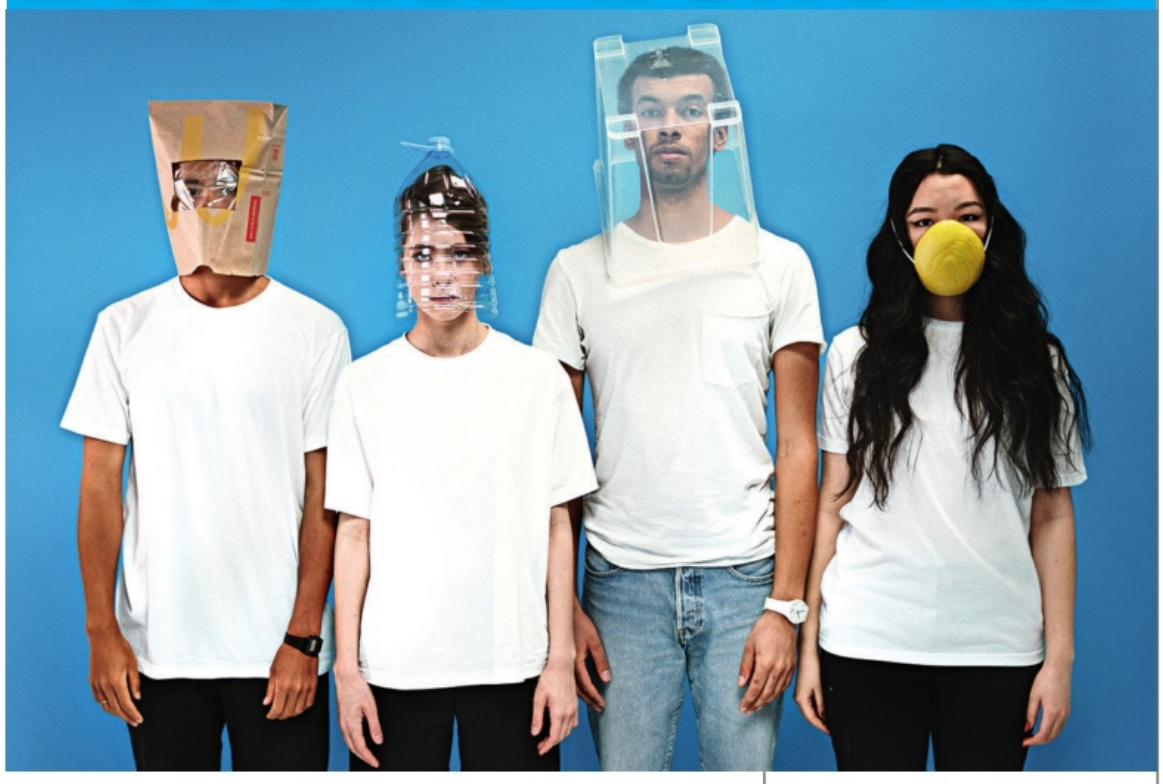
Booster benefits



Covid booster jabs are important as immunity to initial vaccination wanes; youngsters seem to be avoiding it

Vaccination has played a substantial role in reducing the impact of covid across the globe and has allowed life in most countries to gradually return to something like how we remember it before the pandemic. Researchers estimate that tens of millions of lives have been saved thanks to covid vaccines.

Given that immunity to the initial course of vaccines wanes over time, booster doses are important. As with the original doses, boosters were rightly offered first to the most vulnerable, but they are now not group-restricted anymore.

It's been clear since early in the pandemic that older age and a variety of underlying medical conditions put people at much higher risk of getting very sick or dying from covid. This contrasts sharply with otherwise healthy young people where the incidence of serious illness, hospitalisation, and death has been much lower.

Given this, it's reasonable to ask why young adults should bother having a covid vaccination, let alone additional booster shots. Here are some of the reasons they should.

1 Immunity from covid vaccines wanes over time

Some vaccines, such as the MMR vaccine (measles, mumps, and rubella), can provide lifelong protection. In contrast, the effectiveness of covid vaccines begins to decline in the months afterwards.

Immunity doesn't simply drop off a cliff. It's a more gradual decline, with a typical reduction of about 21 per cent in protection against infection and 10 per cent against severe disease in the six months after vaccination.

Although the decline in immunity can be more pronounced in the elderly and those with weakened immune systems, all age groups are affected. And any notable reduction in immunity will provide opportunities for increased virus transmission, and ultimately be reflected in increased incidence of serious illness, hospitalisation and death.

Fortunately, protection can be effectively restored after a booster with an mRNA vaccine.

2 Protecting other people

Vaccination doesn't only provide protection to the person being vaccinated. Covid vaccination also indirectly protects the population as a whole by reducing onward spread of the disease.

Many young adults live in households with, or meet regularly with, elderly or clinically vulnerable relatives or friends.

They might have partners who are pregnant. People who are not fully vaccinated have a higher likelihood of being infected with covid and passing it on to their close contacts.

This is clearly illustrated in an Israeli research which found that children in households with two vaccinated parents were much less likely to catch covid.

3 Reducing the impact of long covid

Many people of all ages continue to report symptoms of covid for months after the original infection, termed "long covid".

Long covid can be debilitating, and has been reported even after relatively mild infections. It may occur in up to 30 per cent of people who get covid, though estimates have varied.

It remains unclear why some people are affected while others are not. But fortunately, research shows that vaccination reduces the risk of long covid.

One study suggests a reduction of about 15 per cent while another suggests the risk is halved. Having a booster may further reduce this risk.

Whatever the precise level of protection, given continually high numbers of covid infections, even a 15 per cent reduction will lead to significantly fewer long covid cases.

4 Fewer days off work or study

For young adults in employment or education, the increased protection provided by being fully vaccinated will mean fewer days off work or interruptions to education due to illness with covid or long covid. At a time of increasing financial pressure, for some this may mean fewer days of income lost.

5 Covid vaccines are safe

Over the past two years, billions of covid vaccine doses have been administered across the globe. covid vaccines have proven to be very effective and, importantly, safe.

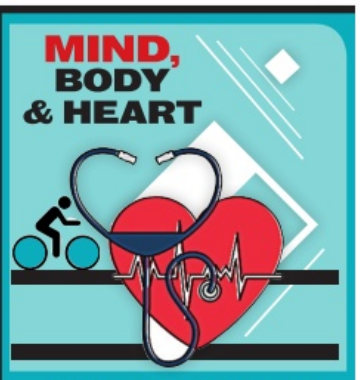
Some serious side effects were identified on very rare occasions, such as a certain type of blood clot and myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle). But through careful monitoring, we have been able to identify potential risk factors for these rare side effects, and determine which vaccines and doses are most appropriate for which groups.

Certain people have expressed concerns that repeated use of vaccines could weaken the immune system. This is not true. We have been administering annual flu vaccinations for decades with no evidence that this negatively affects our immune systems.

Vaccines also do not have harmful effects on fertility.

On the contrary, they may well protect against the sexual dysfunction reported by some people with long covid.

They are also safe for use during pregnancy. —*The Conversation*



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I'm a man in my 40s and I've been married for 12 years. My wife and I don't have kids as she never wanted children, but we do have much-loved dogs and cats. The first few years of our marriage were great - my wife had a brilliant job, we moved into our dream house, and we were very happy.
However, she became very stressed and then depressed after management changes at her work.
She felt bullied there and eventually I told her just to pack in the job because the salary wasn't worth the stress. I suggested we sell the house and downsize so we could survive on my salary.
It was fine for a while, but she's turned into such a bitter, angry person. She makes no effort with her appearance, she drinks too much and then complains about everyone and everything.
Her health isn't good and she takes it all out on me. She snaps and barks at me all the time, and doesn't care who's around, which leaves me feeling embarrassed and upset. I try to laugh it off in company, but it gets to me.

COLEEN SAYS

First of all, has she ever had professional help for her depression? From what you say, it sounds as if she's self medicating with booze and taking her anger and frustration out on you instead of unpacking it through talking or having therapy.

The rug's been pulled from under her, she's angry with the world, she can't see a way out of it and you're in the firing line. I think at some point, you have to give her some home truths, but also say, "Let's make a plan and let me help you - what do you want to do with your life?"

When you're in the midst of depression, it's hard to see the wood for the trees and it's hard to see any positives in your life to build on.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

MIRRORLIGHTS

How alcohol alters your brain

Even a single exposure to alcohol may permanently change the shape of nerve cells and lead to addiction, according to a study conducted in animals.

Neurons or nerve cells are the fundamental units of the brain and nervous system responsible for receiving sensory input from the external world.

The researchers found that, in particular, alcohol affects the structure of the synapses as well as the dynamics of the mitochondria, the cell's powerhouses.

Synapses are the points of contact between neurons where information is passed from one neuron to the next.

The study, published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, used the genetic model system of the fruit fly. It shows that alterations in the migration of mitochondria in the synapses lessen the rewarding

effect of alcohol, the researchers said. These findings imply that even a single drinking incident might lay the foundation for alcohol addiction, they said.

Majority of studies have focused on the consequences of chronic alcohol drinking on the hippocampus, our brain's control center.

"We set out to discover ethanol-dependent molecular changes. These, in turn, provide the basis for permanent cellular changes following a single acute ethanol intoxication," said Henrike Scholz from University of Cologne in Germany. -PTI

This gig is up

Experts say it is high time for policy to be put in place to end exploitation of gig workers

Rain or shine, gig workers are out on the roads, to keep things moving

Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

> **Aspects of their rating system, criteria for allocation of orders, etc are not known. The worker is also not aware of how to mitigate negative ratings**
>
> –Janaki Srinivasan, FWI

Highlighting the exploitation of invisible gig economy workers, experts and activists stressed on the need for a policy for the fairly new economy. According to NITI Aayog, 71 lakh people are involved in the gig economy from 2020-21 and in 2029-2030, it is expected to expand to 2.35 crore.

In Bengaluru alone, according to sources, the numbers are estimated to be somewhere around 33,000 active gig workers in just one company. But despite the billion-dollar industries employing these workers, an average gig worker earns around Rs 10,000 per month after expenses. The difference separating the gig worker from other employees is the high operational costs incurred by the employee. Everything including fuel and mobile charges is borne by the employee, increasing the financial burden by many counts.

While there are several types of gig economies, according to experts, the working conditions of the employees and their earnings are fairly common among them all.

Vinay Sarathi, United Food Delivery Partners' Union president, said, "Gig workers have been included under social security code and 1-2% cess is collected. They are identified as outside the conventional worker-employer relationship. But as per studies, there is a clear relationship between the employer and employee. On the other hand, they have been excluded from the code of wages."

Sarathi said that as per a popular food delivery company, it has 33,000 active gig workers in the city. With several companies operating under this model in the city, the total numbers could run into lakhs.

"Existing laws like Industries Disputes Act, Factories Act might not be the right fit for this new economy. Initially, the beedi workers faced exploitation but eventually were declared as workers," he added.

According to Prof Mohan Mani, a professor at NLSIU (Bengaluru), while the gig workers claim to earn Rs 20,000 for eight hours of work, they would be barely earning Rs 10,000 if you add all the operational costs. "The wage they receive is less than the statutory minimum. According to NITI Ayog, 47% of people have been categorised as middle-skilled workers but are not paid commensurate with their experience," he added.

According to Janaki Srinivasan of Fair Work India (FWI), gig workers must receive fair pay, work conditions, contracts, management, and representation at their workplaces. Based on the above parameters, FWI has devised a scoring system and has found that from 2019-2021, the scores have been dropping.

No transparency in data

At a webinar 'Towards a policy for Gig workers' Srinivasan highlighted that while the 10-minute delivery system has exacerbated the poor work conditions, there is also a burning need for transparency on the data collected on the worker. "An individual worker is not aware of the size of his workforce. Algorithms dominate the space but the worker is not aware of how it works. Aspects of their rating system, criteria for allocation of orders, etc are not known. The worker is also not aware of how to mitigate negative ratings. They are not aware of how and how much data is being collected. Even for grievances concerning technical issues, the worker has to speak to an IVR system and suffers financially until it is resolved."

"During covid, the gig workers suffered but were barely compensated by these companies. Unable to pay installments, cab drivers were losing their mode of employment to financing companies," said Chandan Kumar, Working People's Charter. Having defaulted on payments, they became ineligible for any further loans and struggled to make both ends meet.

Shaik Salauddin of the Indian Federation of App-based Transport Workers rued the difficulty of finding representation in government circles. "Gig workers are not recognised by the transport, labour or IT departments. They haven't taken any responsibility for the past 10 years. Additionally, they struggle with identification due to not having identity cards," Salauddin said.

Legislative Council passes anti-conversion bill

The Legislative Council on Thursday passed the contentious "anti conversion bill", amid objections from the opposition Congress and JD(S).

The 'Karnataka Protection of Right to Freedom of Religion Bill' was passed by the Legislative Assembly in December last.

As the Bill was pending for passage in the Legislative Council, where the ruling BJP was short of majority then, the government had subsequently promulgated an ordinance in May this year to give effect to the bill.

Home Minister Araga Jnanendra piloted the Bill for the consideration of the Upper House today.

Noting that in recent times religious conversions have become widespread, he said there have been mass conversions with allurements and through force, disturbing peace and leading to mistrust among people following different religions.

The Bill does not take away anyone's religious freedom and anyone can practice the religion of his or her choice, but not under pressure and allurements, Jnanendra said.

The Minister had moved some amendments to substitute certain clauses in the Bill like- "It (legislation) shall be deemed to have come into force with effect from the 17th day of May 2022"; also that "....the ordinance is hereby repealed"- which has now been accepted with the passage of the bill.

Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Council BK Hariprasad even tore the copy of the bill in protest as the pro-tem Chairman Raghunath Rao Malkapure was in the process of putting the bill to vote.

Hariprasad termed the bill as "unconstitutional" and will affect the right to religion.

Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister JC Madhuswamy maintained that the bill was well within the scope of the Constitution of India.

The Bill that has been vehemently opposed by some Christian community leaders, provides for protection of right to freedom of religion and prohibition of unlawful conversion from one religion to another by misrepresentation, force, undue influence, coercion, allurement or by any fraudulent means.

–PTI

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personal

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I Sameena Noor w/o syed Noor R/A 4/24,18th main ,BTM 2nd stage ,has changed my name to Sameena Kouser,Vide affidavit dt 14/09/22 ,sworn before notary Mahesha jj B'lore

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I Gayathri Gopichand W/O, Gopichand.m R/o No. 1132, 8th B Main, Btm1st Phase, 1st Stage, Bengaluru 560029, have changed my name to Gayathri.t.h Also Called As Gayathri Tarikere Hanumanthappa

I Smitha Srinivasa W/O, H M Srinivasa R/o No.1130, 9th Cross, 3rd Main, 5th Block, Hmt Layout, Nagasandra Post, Bangalore 560073 have changed my name to Smitha J

I Venkat Narayana Madineni (Old Name) changed my name to Venkata Narayana Madineni & My father Naryana Madineni (Old Name) Changed Name to Narayana Madineni

I Annapura Nagarajappa W/O, Nagarajappa Thadimarri R/o No 87 1st Main Vinayaka Layout Marathalli, Bengaluru 560037 have changed my name to Annapurna Nagarajappa

I, Karthik P sakariya S/o Parasmal R/o No-20 , 2nd floor , Railway parallel Road Nehru Nagar , Seshadripuram B'lore-560020 have changed my minor son name from Yuvaan to Yuvaan K Sakariya vide affidavit dtd 15/09/2022 .

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One last game

Roger Federer waves to spectators at the Shanghai Masters tennis tournament in this 2018 file photo

Roger Federer, a 20-time Grand Slam singles champion, on Thursday announced his retirement from top-level tennis, saying that next week's Laver cup will be his final ATP final tour-level event. The 41-year-old has not played since Wimbledon 2021, after which he had a third knee operation.

"As many of you know, the past three years have presented me with challenges in the form of injuries and surgeries. I've worked hard to return to full competitive form, but I also know my body's capabilities and limits and its message to me lately has been clear. I am 41 years old. I have played more than 1,500 matches over 24 years," the tennis great said in a statement on Twitter.

"Tennis has treated me more generously than I ever would have dreamt and now I must recognise when it's time to end my competitive career. The Laver Cup next week in London will be my final ATP event. I will play more tennis, but just not in Grand Slams or on the Tour," he added. The Swiss legend held World No 1 in the ATP Rankings for 310 weeks, good for second since 1973 behind only Novak Djokovic. However, Federer held the top spot for a record 237 consecutive weeks from February 2, 2004 to August 18, 2008.

Federer served the sport as president of the ATP Player Council from 2008-14 and later re-joined the council from 2019-22. He was influential in securing significant prize money increases for players. Through the Roger Federer Foundation, the Swiss has assisted almost two million underprivileged children in Africa.

SPORTS

At Roland Garros in 2009, Federer completed the Career Grand Slam and at Wimbledon one month later, he broke Pete Sampras' Open Era record by lifting his 15th major trophy. He went on to claim 20 Grand Slam trophies, which now trails only Rafael Nadal (22) and Djokovic (21).

The Swiss earned six Australian Open triumphs, the 2009 Roland Garros title, eight Wimbledon trophies and five consecutive US Open victories (2004-08).

As per ATP, Federer earned 1,251 tour-level wins during his illustrious career, good for the second-most victories on record behind only Jimmy Connors' 1,274. The Swiss also claimed 103 tour-level trophies, only trailing Connors' 109.

The Basel native claimed a record six titles, 59 wins and 18 qualifications at the Nitto ATP Finals. He also excelled at the ATP Masters 1000 events, where he won 28 titles. Federer is also the winner of a record 40 ATP Tour Awards: ATP Tour No. 1 (2004-07, 2009), Arthur Ashe Humanitarian of Year (2006, 2013), Comeback Player of the Year (2017), Stefan Edberg Sportsmanship (2004-09, 2011-17) and Fans' Favourite (2003-21). He is also the most-decorated athlete in the history of the Laureus World Sports Awards, winning Sportsman of the Year five times (2005-08, 2018) and Comeback of the Year in 2018.

The Swiss climbed to the top of the sport for the first time aged 22, reaching World No. 1 on February 2, 2004. From there, he enjoyed a peerless reign. From 2004-06, he tallied an astonishing 247-15 record, good for a winning percentage of more than 94 percent.

During that stretch, he lifted 34 tour-level trophies. From 2003-05, Federer won 24 straight matches against Top 10 opponents. Nadal and Djokovic then joined Federer at the top of the sport, creating the 'Big Three', an unprecedented era in tennis. In recent years, Federer showed great resilience. After undergoing knee surgery in 2016, he returned in 2017 to play some great tennis. As the 17th seed at the 2017 Australian Open, he won his 18th Grand Slam title and his first since Wimbledon in 2012. Federer became the oldest World No 1 in the history of ATP Rankings in February 2018 at age 36. He would then win a record eighth Wimbledon title later that year and a sixth Australian Open trophy in 2018. – IANS

Dear friend and rival...

Rafael Nadal said it was "an honour" to share "amazing moments" with Roger Federer after the Swiss great announced his retirement from tennis on Thursday.
"Dear Roger, my friend and rival, I wish this day would never have come," Nadal wrote on Twitter. "It's been a pleasure but also an honour and privilege to share all these years with you, living so many amazing moments on and off the court." – AFP

New helpline is of no help

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

number has only nine digits - 948068816. Upon dialling, an intercept message is received stating that the dialled number does not exist: 'Please check the number you have dialled'. The same is repeated when Pulikeshi Nagar executive engineer Thippeswamy's phone number, 953800411, was dialled. Residents said the BBMP has to focus on fixing problems instead of launching apps, constituting panels or committees. "I was very happy when the BBMP announced the formation of Citizens Grievances Redressal Cell but got disappointed when the executive engineer did not answer my phone call. I wanted to bring to the executive engineer's notice the bad condition of 24th Main Road that is being dug up by Bescom which is resulting in traffic jams during the peak hours," said Citizens Task Force member Venkatesh HS.

Stating that the constitution of a committee would not resolve civic issues, Varthur Rising's Jagadeesh Reddy said the committee should have the power to fix problems. "What is the use of merely constituting a cell or committee without empowering it to fix civic problems?" asked Reddy.

Meanwhile, a few assistant executive engineers are finding it tough to handle phone calls from residents. They said the BBMP provided phone numbers of assistant engineers, assistant executive engineers and executive engineers who are responsible to maintain roads and footpaths but they are not connected or authorised to look into complaints such as dysfunctional streetlights, stormwater drains or health issues.

"I get phone calls from residents of Kodigehalli. The area does not come under my jurisdiction. I also get complaints on drains and streetlights. It would have been better if the authorities made a provision to have contact numbers of those who handle health issues, streetlights and stormwater drains," said an assistant executive engineer.

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On medical rooms in schools

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

room for the students, they are unsure about the capacity and facilities available there. "I think only a few elite schools in the city would have fully functional medical rooms of good standards. Others also have but they often have a few basic medications like paracetamol that they give to every child without any check-up," said Suresh RH, another parent.

D Shashi Kumar, general secretary of the Associated Managements of Primary and Secondary Schools in Karnataka said that among the state board schools, almost none of them have a medical room facility.

"Almost 99% of the state board schools do not have any medical room facility. The reason is that there are no guidelines in this regard. ICSE and CBSE board schools have certain guidelines about this... Since the pandemic, some schools have made temporary arrangements like isolation wards for the students. However, most of them still do not have proper nursing staff and equipment required," he explained. Experts said schools should focus on first aid training for teachers. Nagasimha G Rao, director of Child Rights Trust, said the schools in the rural areas of Karnataka do not even have

first aid boxes at the ready.

"Most of the government schools do not even have first aid boxes for an emergency. When the covid impact was greater, schools kept sanitisers and masks but now these are also disappearing slowly... Schools should make sure that all the teachers and senior students are well-trained in administering first aid," Rao said.

"Students are sent back home when they fall sick; as a result, they end up missing out on the syllabus. If a proper medical facility is available in all the schools, then the kids can stay in school," he added. Rao told BM that schools should pay special attention to learning disabilities among children that are often overlooked.

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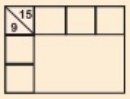
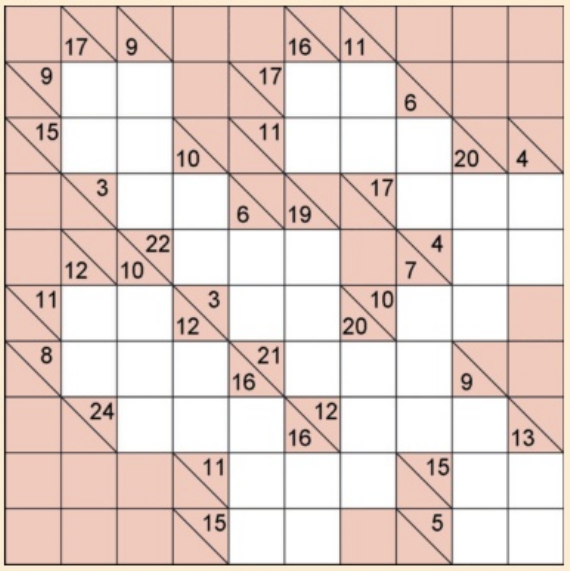
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

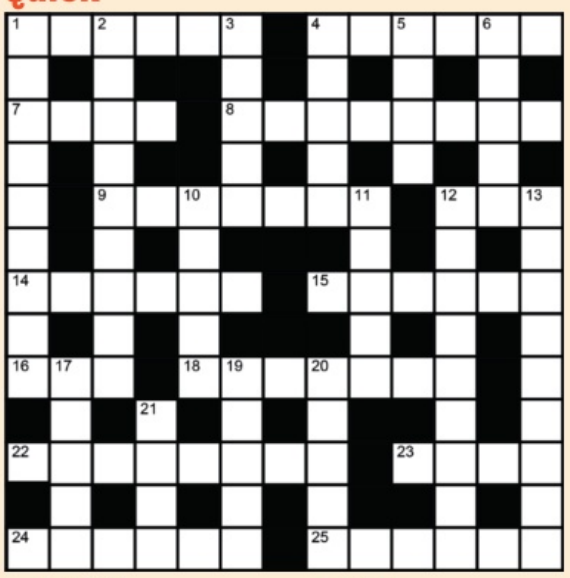


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Positioned or arranged? (6)
4 Plain or easy (6)
7 Wealthy (4)
8 Venerate or respect? (4,2,2)
9 Dies, especially suddenly (4,3)
12 Mal de ___ : sea sickness in French? (3)
14 Chinese Taipei (6)
15 Portable computer (6)
16 To tease or irritate (3)
18 Guarantor; patron (7)
22 22 acre park between M.G Road and Cubbon Road (8)
23 Baltic city (4)
24 Annoy–a Trojan hero (6)
25 Teetered or influenced (6)

DOWN

1 Boundary, outline (9)
2 Taking, saying yes to? (9)
3 Glades or glens (5)
4 Mockery (5)
5 Heavy hammer (4)
6 Nearly two pints (5)
10 Stage productions (5)
11 Banners or pennants (5)
12 Motherhood (9)
13 Officially rebuke (9)
17 Astonish (5)
19 Scottish musician (5)
20 Approaches (5)
21 Liquid measure (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: P EQUALS G

HAJZGAZ JH K UKS LD EVJGN-JGP BTAV BLCZ EVKG JE JH K OLMS LD NGLUXZMPZ.

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Joke of the day

Time between slipping on a peel and hitting the pavement: 1 bananosecond

Loop

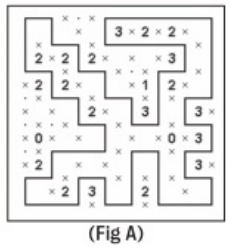
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

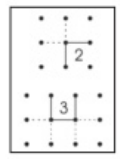
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

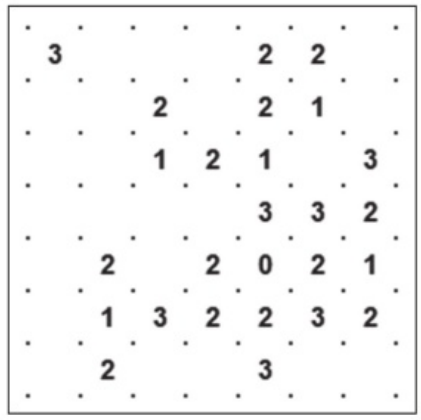
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



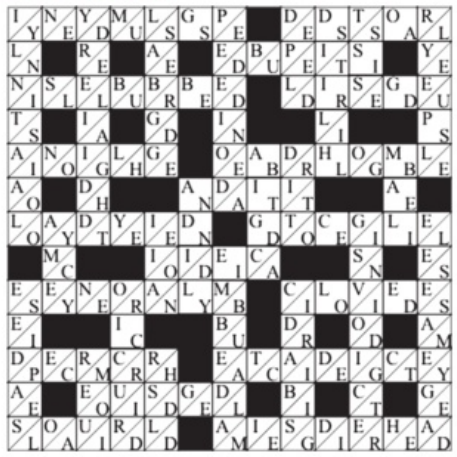
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



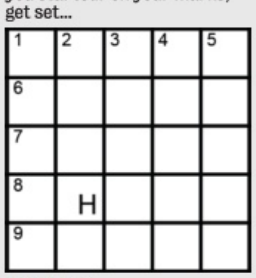
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

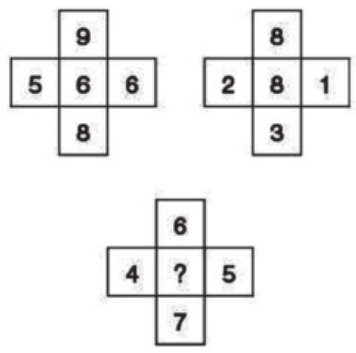
1 Be erg; 6 Niler;
7 Oasis; 8 NHS us;
9 Is gee

DOWN

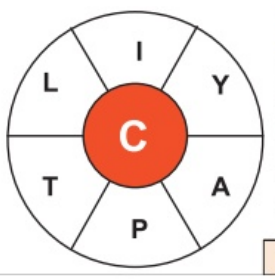
1 Slogs; 2 Irish;
3 Nee us; 4 Begin;
5 Saree

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; 07 Good; 09 Outstanding

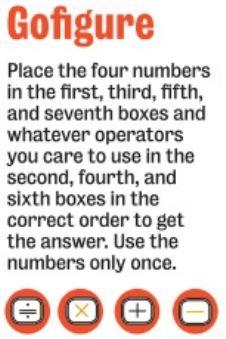
SudokuChallenge

	2	9				3	5	
			6		5			
	6						7	
8		4	9		3	2		5
		5		2		9		
9		2	8		4	6		7
	9						4	
			3		7			
	4	8				7	2	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

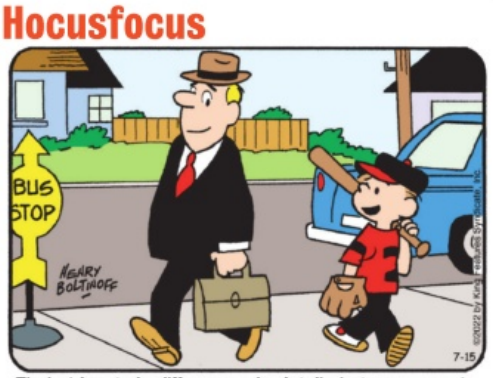


Easy = 7
3 3 5 5

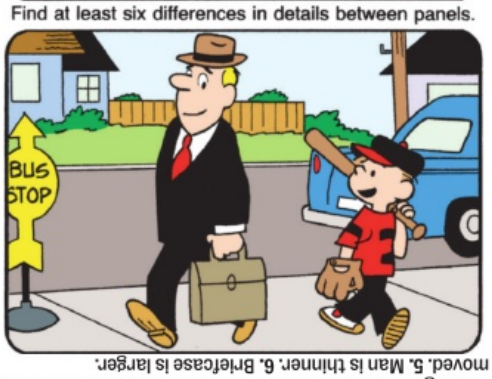
Medium = 10
1 3 6 9

Hard = 4
2 8 9 6

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



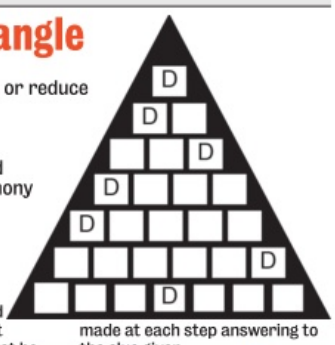
Differences: 1. Line in sidewalk is moved. 2. Windowsill is missing. 3. Rear car window is smaller. 4. House window is moved. 5. Man is thinner. 6. Briefcase is larger.

Riddler

What does this represent?
Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag
CIRRUS Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag
CUMULUS Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag
STRATUS Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag Ag

Alpha triangle

1 Five hundred
2 Prefix for remove or reduce
3 Bring to a close
4 Have supper
5 Condescend
6 _____it: ad-libbed
7 A marriage ceremony



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

Every time I come home from gathering twigs, it's filled with more of these things.
VIP QUIPS
CATCH-02
Free Library
BIZARRO.COM

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

Crankshaft

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today is a good day for you. You may have good vitality and health. You may enjoy your work. Today you must avoid being too blunt. It is advised to avoid arguments on worthless topics, otherwise there may be some disputes in the family. If you are able to control your tongue, you may expect healthy partnerships in business and harmony in the family.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today your vital powers may slow down and old diseases may reappear, which can make you upset. You are advised to avoid adventure tours and rash driving. You are advised to avoid any type of ligation. You may settle it out of the jury. You may also plan for an overseas tour.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may get profits for your past investments. Your losses may convert to profits. Implementation of new ideas may bring progress in the business. Today you may get success easily. You are likely to meet an influential person who may show you the right path to success. Lovebirds may take some decisions in terms of marriage. Couples will hear good news in terms of kids.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today your family and spouse will support you. It will increase domestic harmony. Due to overload at the work, you may not give proper time to your friends, but they will be supportive. You are expected to be offered a strong position at work. Projects related to government agencies are likely to re-initiate now.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today your spiritual power can make you happy. Your way of thinking may be positive. You are inclined to spiritualism today. You may plan to visit some spiritual place. You may also take interest in occult sciences. You are likely to observe flawlessness in your nature. It is advised to keep your views with yourself and those who may understand your frequency.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may feel nervous. You have a lack of patience. For seeking peace, you may be attracted by the occult. It is advised to follow your intuition before going ahead. You may also get in-depth knowledge on a subject or you may have a good focus towards your research.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today your moon is placed in a good position. You may expect some positive momentum in professional and domestic life. There are likely to be gains in terms of your investments. You may get reciprocation for your help from friends and relatives. Your hard work may pay you off in terms of success.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may do better. Children's health is better now. You can plan to make some investment for their future. You are likely to be more loyal towards your job. Job seekers may find a good job with the help of references. You may be able to find your hidden enemies, and with the help of elders, you may counter them.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you may hear good news in terms of a job. Job seekers may be focused to get success in some exams with the help of hard work. Singles may get engaged with their soulmate. You may also hear some good news in terms of childbirth.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today new sources of income may likely be opened. Your past investments may give you a good profit, which will boost your bank balance. You may connect with a social organisation which will increase your network. Singles may find a soulmate in terms of marriage.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, blessings from elders can make you confident. You can follow your intuition before taking any initiatives which may help you at work. Your intuition may help to gain more in terms of finances. You must control your arrogance to enjoy your domestic life.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you are blessed by your elders. New sources of income will be opened up, which will boost your bank balance. You may plan to renovate your house. You may get a big order which can grow your family business by a lot.

KIDZONE

Abbay Nagendra, 9 Years, National Public School

Rahul Gopalan, 8 Years, National Public School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
1+1+720+5+48+210+80+1=1066

BULL'S EYE
city, clap, clay, clip, lacy, pact, plea, talc, TYPICAL

QUOTE UNCODE
Science is a way of thinking much more than it is a body of knowledge.

FAST FIVE

S	I	E	G	E
L	I	N	E	R
O	S	S	I	A
S	H	U	N	S
G	R	E	B	E

STRIKE OUT

L	A	I	R	D	■	M	I	S	D	E	E	D	■	■
A	■	O	U	S	E	L	■	B	■	C	■	E	■	■
T	I	■	G	■	I	■	L	■	E	■	G	E	■	■
I	N	G	L	E	■	E	A	R	L	O	B	■	■	■
A	■	A	D	I	T	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
L	A	T	E	E	N	■	D	O	C	I	L	E	■	■
A	■	H	■	A	D	I	T	■	E	■	■	■	■	■
M	■	O	D	E	A	■	N	■	S	■	■	■	■	■
S	Y	N	O	N	Y	M	■	C	O	V	E	S	■	■
E	■	C	■	B	R	O	■	A	■	■	■	■	■	■
P	E	R	C	H	■	A	C	I	D	I	T	Y	■	■
A	■	O	U	S	E	L	■	B	■	C	■	E	■	■
T	I	■	G	■	I	■	L	■	E	■	G	E	■	■
I	N	G	L	E	■	E	A	R	L	O	B	■	■	■
N	E	A	D	U	E	T	S	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
I	L	L	B	R	E	D	■	L	I	E	G	E	■	■
N	D	U	L	G	E	■	E	S	S	A	R	■	■	■

QUICK

H	E	C	T	O	R	■	S	W	A	Y	E	D	■	■
Z	■	N	■	E	R	■	T	■	■	■	N	■	■	■
C	A	R	I	A	P	P	A	■	R	I	G	A	■	■
M	■	P	■	I	■	E	■	N	■	M	■	■	■	■
R	A	G	■	S	P	O	N	S	O	R	■	I	■	■
E	■	N	■	Y	■	G	■	E	■	R	■	■	■	■
T	A	I	W	A	N	■	L	A	P	T	O	P	■	■
E	■	T	■	L	■	■	■	L	■	A	■	E	■	■
M	■	P	O	P	S	O	F	■	P	A	M	E	R	■
I	■	E	■	L	■	O	■	L	■	R	■	■	■	■
R	I	C	H	■	L	O	O	K	U	P	T	O	■	■
E	■	C	■	E	■	P	■	A	■	I	■	■	■	■
P	L	A	C	E	D	■	S	I	M	P	L	E	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
4: (6 + 7) – (4 + 5)

RIDDLER
Every cloud has a silver lining. Cirrus, cumulus, and stratus are types of clouds. Ag is the chemical symbol for silver.

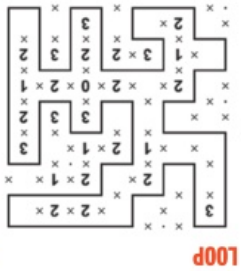
SUDOKU

3	4	8	5	9	6	7	2	1
2	5	1	3	4	7	8	6	9
7	9	6	1	8	2	5	4	3
9	1	2	8	5	4	6	3	7
6	3	5	7	2	1	9	8	4
8	7	4	9	6	3	2	1	5
5	6	3	2	1	9	4	7	8
4	8	7	6	3	5	1	9	2
1	2	9	4	7	8	3	5	6

ALPHA TRIANGLE
D, DE, End, Dine, Deign, Winged, Wedding.

GO FIGURE
Easy
3 x 5 – 3 – 5 = 7
Medium
6 x 3 – 9 + 1 = 10
Hard
8 – 9 x 2 + 6 = 4

LOOP



KAKURO

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 # Memories of Anne Heche
In a memoir Anne Heche worked on over the past year, which will be out in January, the actor shared candid thoughts on her relationship with Ellen DeGeneres in the late 1990s

My graceful gran

Find out what Sara feels about her gorgeous granny

Bollywood actress Sara Ali Khan is often seen talking about her grandmother and veteran actress Sharmila Tagore and recently, she spoke about playing her on-screen if a biopic is made on Sharmila.

The 'Atrangi Re' actress, while answering a question asked by her fan on portraying her grandmother in her biopic, said that it is not easy to match her grace while portraying her in a biopic.

"She's so graceful. I don't know if I'm graceful," replied Sara.

Tagore is known for her remarkable performances in movies such as Shakti Samanta's 1964 hit 'Kashmir Ki Kali', her chemistry with Rajesh Khanna was also liked by the audience in the films like 'Aradhana', 'Safar', 'Amar Prem' and others.

During a live show on Roposo, Sara said she does not talk to her grandmother much about her films and works.

She added: "I speak to badi amma (grandmother) quite a lot, but I don't think I've actually spent much time speaking to her about her career as such. There are so many other things.

She's so well-read, interested in current events, and has a great sense of general knowledge. She's such a classy lady and she's had such a life. She has world views and we've spent so much more time talking about that than actually her craft, which I think I should."

On the work front, Sara will be seen next in Laxman Utekar's project opposite Vicky Kaushal and also in 'Gaslight' along with Vikrant Massey.

—IANS

Back to black

All the times that Janhvi Kapoor managed to turn heads in black outfits

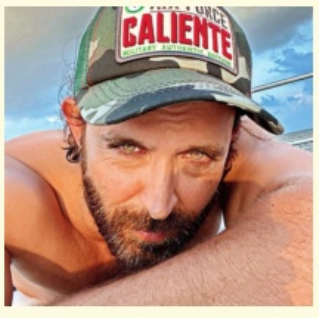
Watch this story come alive by pointing your phone camera at the QR code

An item boy

Superstar Hrithik Roshan will be seen in a completely different avatar in 'Alcoholia' song from 'Vikram Vedha' film. As per the makers, Hrithik will be seen dancing to the song that has a desi vibe. It's titled 'Alcoholia' as it depicts the quirky element of the song, where Vedha and his gang will be seen celebrating.

'Alcoholia' will be broadcast live across 15 cities.

The track is sung by Vishal-Shekhar, Snigdhajit Bhowmik, and Ananya Chakraborty. The music is given by the hit duo Vishal-Shekhar while the lyrics are written by Manoj Muntashir. 'Vikram Vedha' is an official Hindi remake of a Tamil film with the same title, which starred R Madhavan and Vijay Sethupathi in the lead roles.



The story of 'Vikram Vedha' is full of twists, as a tough cop Vikram (Saif Ali Khan) sets out to track and chase a dreaded gangster Vedha (Hrithik Roshan). What unfolds is a cat-and-mouse chase, where Vedha - a master storyteller helps Vikram peel back layers through a series of stories leading to thought-provoking moral ambiguities. Helmed by Pushkar and Gayatri, the film is set to hit the theatres on September 30.

—ANI

Nora joins probe

Bollywood actor Nora Fatehi on Thursday reached the office of the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Delhi Police to join the investigation in connection with the Rs 200 crore extortion case involving multimillionaire conman Sukesh Chandrashekhar.

Pinky Irani, an associate of Chandrashekhar, was also at the EOW office. Both will be confronted by the EOW officials to clear a few things.

Earlier, the EOW had said that there were contradictions in the statements of Bollywood actress Jacqueline Fernandez and Irani.

On Wednesday, Fernandez and Irani were grilled for hours and were confronted with each other. The police found that there were contradictions in their statements.

Now, police will question Fatehi and Irani again.

"We want to clarify a few things, hence we have called Irani and Fatehi again. Today they will be confronted," said a senior police official.

The official said that Fatehi has said several times that she did not know anything about the criminal record of Chandrashekhar.

—ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Real life on reel

A filmmaker is basing a film on his own life story. This is Visakh SS, an architect who quit his job to make a move. The film Kullana Hendathi (short man's wife), broaches issues that Visakh says the society can get a message out of. It was shot over 45 days in 2020 in the city, Kolar, Channapatna and other locations.

His wife is a year-and-a-half years older than him and that's what gave him an idea for the film. "In the movie, the husband is shorter than his wife. The society is used to seeing husbands taller than the wives and also older by at least two to three years," said Visakh. He said his wife who works at an MNC was shocked when he told her of his decision to quit. "I learnt how to handle the megaphone through YouTube. It is my debut as a director," he says, all smiles.

'Grateful to cinema'

Versatile actor Ramesh Aravind was conferred with an honorary doctorate degree from Rani Channamma University, Belagavi on Wednesday. Known as a humble and gregarious actor in Sandalwood, Ramesh Aravind said he is grateful to the Governor of Karnataka and Rani Channamma University for the honorary doctorate degree.

On Thursday, Ramesh Aravind told BM that he wants to thank cinema, his family and every moviegoer for encouraging him during his 30-year-long journey in the industry. "My two brothers and sister sent the same message – Appa would have been very happy had he been alive today – when I sent the news about the honorary doctorate degree. My father was a great support when I decided to act rather than work as a mechanical engineer," says Ramesh Aravind.

He has acted in over 100 Kannada, 30 Tamil, 10 Telugu and two Hindi movies. He won Karnataka State Film award as a best actor for his sterling performance in America America and the Filmfare award for his performance in Amrutha Varshini.